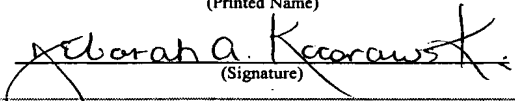




Atty. Dkt. No. 029815-0103

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Sweeney, Patrick J.
Title: VERTEBRAL
PROSTHESIS
Appl. No.: 10/686,998
Filing Date: 10/16/2003
Examiner: Barrett, Thomas C.
Art Unit: 3738
Confirmation No.: 7428

CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service's "Express Mail Post Office To Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated below and is addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.	
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Deborah A. Kocorowski (Printed Name)	
 (Signature)	

Mail Stop **AMENDMENT**
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

This Reply is responsive to the Non-Final Office Action mailed on April 5, 2006, concerning the above-referenced patent application.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this document.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 9 of this document.

Please amend the application as follows: